



# Hendry County Sheriff's Office

## General Order 2.2

<b>TITLE:</b> Mutual Aid Agreements	<b>SHERIFF'S APPROVAL:</b> Digital
<b>ORIGINATION DATE:</b> July 28, 2017	<b>REVISION DATE:</b> May 7, 2019
<b>RELATED REFERENCES:</b> §23.1225 F.S., <i>HCSO Incident Command System Manual</i> <b>CFA:</b>	
<b>REVIEW FREQUENCY:</b> 3 YEARS	<b>NEXT REVIEW:</b> May 7, 2022

**I. PURPOSE:** The purpose of this order is to establish mutual aid agreements responsibilities and related statewide law enforcement services.

---

**II. SCOPE:** This order shall apply to all sheriff's office members.

---

**III. POLICY:** It is the policy of the Hendry County Sheriff's Office to work constructively with other law enforcement agencies by providing or receiving appropriate assistance in the form of services, personnel, and equipment for emergencies and other identified needs.

---

### IV. PROCEDURE:

#### A. Mutual Aid Agreement

Per Florida Statutes 23.1225, the agency has mutual aid agreements with all cities within Hendry County and with all sheriff's offices throughout the state. These agreements include the following terms:

1. Provisions for Operational Assistance and Voluntary Cooperation
  - a. Law enforcement agencies may request from or render assistance to other agencies in dealing with any violations of Florida Statutes to include inter-agency task forces and joint investigations.
  - b. Requests from federal law enforcement agencies will be routed through the respective division commander of the organizational unit requesting the assistance. These requests for assistance will be made through the federal agency's local or closest field office.
2. Employees rendering assistance outside their jurisdiction pursuant to mutual aid agreements will have the same powers, duties, rights, privileges, and immunities as if they were performing duties in the political subdivision in which they are normally employed.
3. Routine investigations and follow-ups may be accomplished between Sheriff's Office personnel and the respective agency.

4. If investigative task forces are created either on a temporary or permanent basis, the following will be documented at a minimum by the ranking agency representative and submitted to the Chief Deputy.
  - a. Identification of the purpose and objectives of the task force, and specific criteria used to determine the necessity for creating the task force.
  - b. Defining the authority and responsibilities of agency personnel involved in the task force.
  - c. Identification and approval of any and all written agreements attributed to the task force.
  - d. Identification and establishment of accountability for participating agencies.
  - e. Identification of available resources as well as resources required to support the task force.
  - f. Procedure for evaluating and reporting results to the sheriff as well as the continued necessity for the task force's existence.
5. Specific criteria used to determine the necessity for creating a task force include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a. Ongoing crime pattern affecting multiple jurisdictions.
  - b. Crime pattern or investigation of sufficient magnitude that requires the ongoing resources of multiple jurisdictions.
  - c. Ongoing crime pattern or incident with a high propensity for danger to the public.
  - d. Long-term vice or narcotics investigations that require the expertise and rotation of numerous officers into the investigation, in support of the operation.
  - e. Any other purpose deemed necessary by the Sheriff or his designee.
6. Reimbursement by the requesting agency to the assisting agency for the assisting agency's resources must be stipulated in the mutual aid agreement.
7. The agency head or designee whose assistance is sought will evaluate the situation and the agency's resources and will respond in an appropriate manner.

#### B. Providing Aid

1. Any deputy may provide or request thru a supervisor, back-up support or routine aid from other agencies within and bordering Hendry County as the availability of resources permit.
  - a. Request for specialty units/vehicles must be approved by a Lieutenant or above.
2. Agency personnel will coordinate with appropriate agencies when jointly investigating crimes committed in another jurisdiction and they will complete required reports documenting their investigations.
  - a. If a deputy wishes to effect an arrest in the other jurisdiction, he/she will notify their immediate supervisor and communications center which will notify that jurisdiction and

request assistance prior to making the arrest, unless doing so will compromise the arrest or when circumstances dictate otherwise.

3. Should an unplanned law enforcement situation arise within a Hendry County municipality, that agency's communication center will be notified and the appropriate action taken.
4. A citizen who requests service for an area that falls within a Hendry County municipality will be referred to that city's police department, unless the citizen specifically requests the service of the Sheriff's Office. The responding deputy's supervisor will be notified of the response.
5. The district patrol supervisor is empowered to authorize emergency non-routine aid to other agencies.
  - a. The patrol supervisor will advise the on-duty watch commander or district lieutenant of the aid being provided as soon as possible.

#### C. Incident Command System Manual

HCSO Incident Command System (ICS) Manual has provisions for:

1. Requesting assistance from the National Guard, local and federal agencies.
2. Procedures for maintaining radio communication with outside personnel.

#### D. Regional Services

1. The agency will maintain radio communication with other law enforcement agencies. Hendry County Mutual aid groups will normally be used.
2. The agency participates in:
  - a. Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Centralized Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) as well as all centralized systems.
  - b. Federal (NCIC) and statewide (FCIC) criminal information systems.
  - c. Uniform Crime Reporting System maintained by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

#### E. Review and Revision

Mutual aid agreements will be reviewed and amended prior to the expiration date by the Chief Deputy.

---

## V. GLOSSARY:

**MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT** – A cooperative agreement among governmental agencies allowing for rapid and efficient augmentation of resources.

---

**Your electronic signature in Power DMS acknowledges you have read this policy and understand it.**